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# U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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FDA IS SMOKE-FREE

**Announcement Number:** FDA-0-4031

**Opening Date:** April 28, 2000

**Closing Date:** June 30, 2000

**Position Title/Series /Grade:** Interdisciplinary Scientist, GS-\*-14  
(401 – Biologist, 403 – Microbiologist, 405 – Pharmacologist, 415 - Toxicologist,  
1320 – Chemist)

**Promotion Potential:** GS-14

**Organization/Location:** Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration, Center for Veterinary Medicine, Office of Surveillance and Compliance, Division of Animal Feeds, Rockville, MD  
**Metro Park North II**

**Salary Range:** \$71,954 - \$93,537 per annum

**Relocation Expenses:** Relocation expenses will be paid.

**Area of Consideration:** Government-Wide  
This position is open to current permanent Federal employee in a competitive position or a former employee with reinstatement eligibility. A person eligible for veterans' preference or person separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after 3 years or more of continuous military service may apply. This position is appropriate for Commission Corp

**Bargaining Unit Status:** This is a non-bargaining unit position.

**Type of Appointment:** Career/Career Conditional

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**Condition of Employment:** Certain positions within FDA are subject to strict restrictions on financial holdings (FDA regulated financial holdings). To determine whether this position is affected, applicants are advised to seek more information contact the Ethics Staff, Division of Management Programs on (301) 827-5511.

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**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The Animal Feed Safety Team is responsible for animal feed contamination, pre-market approval of non-nutritive food additives and provides primary scientific support for the Center on all issues related to mycotoxins, pesticides, industrial chemicals, microbial contaminants, and emerging diseases that have a feed component (e.g., BSE). The incumbent of this position serves as the leader of the Animal Feed Safety Team in the Division of Animal Feeds, Office of Surveillance and Compliance, Center for Veterinary Medicine. The incumbent is responsible for assigning, directing, motivating and reviewing the work of scientists in the team for scientific accuracy, compliance with Agency policies, and logical presentation and development of issues. In addition, the incumbent serves as the principal advisor to the Division Director in the field of personal scientific expertise. The scientist is responsible for planning, coordinating, and evaluating the programs and activities of the Division for the professional scientific discipline for which the scientist is responsible. Maintains close personal contact with the "state of science" in order to inculcate the most advanced theories and practices in the scientific fields into the Division programs and also into the Office program. **Such as:**

- ◆ Concentrates on complex, long-range, and emerging animal feed safety problems and conflicts in the scientific field as applied to the feed products for which the Division is responsible. Keeps fully abreast of crucial and precedent-setting cases under review within the Division and in the regulated industry as well as related cases in the Office, and briefs the Division Director and the team for which the scientist is responsible on all scientific interpretations and analyses.
- ◆ As the recognized authority in the area of scientific expertise, receives for resolution unique, far-reaching, and previously unresolved problems involved with scientific analysis. Researches problems in depth, carries out evaluations, consults with other professionals both within and outside the Division, and the Federal government as necessary. As a team leader, conceives and develops valid approaches, and makes final decisions that become Division policy and procedure.
- ◆ Leads or serves as a member of Division task forces and study groups called to consider problems or directions in the area of scientific expertise. As required, conceives of the mission for such groups, develops propositions for study and speaks for Division, Office and Center on matters in the scientific discipline. Represents Center in professional and academic communities and to the regulated industry. Maintains liaisons with other organizations within the Center and the Agency, the Department, and other agencies. Provides consultations, opinions, and endorsements regarding the scientific discipline. Attends professional meetings both within and outside the Federal government. Addresses professional groups on the area of personal expertise as that area affects the mission for which the Division is responsible.

**QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Candidates must have 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to the next lower grade level. Candidates must meet all the qualification requirements, including the time in grade, within 30 days after the closing date.

**BIOLOGIST, GS-401**

Applicants must have either (A) Successful completion of a full four-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's degree (or higher) with major study in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines appropriate to the position; or (B) A combination of education and experience with courses equivalent to a major, as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

**MICROBIOLOGIST, GS-403**

Applicants must have either (A) Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's (or higher) degree in microbiology, biology, chemistry, or basic medical science which includes at least 20 semester hours in microbiology and other subjects related to the study of microorganisms, and 20 semester hours in the physical and a mathematical sciences combining course work in organic chemistry or biochemistry, physics, and college algebra, or their equivalent; OR (B) A combination of education and experience with courses equivalent to a major in microbiology, biology, chemistry, or basic medical science that included courses as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

**PHARMACOLOGIST, GS-405**

Applicants must have successful completion of a full four-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's (or higher) degree with major study in biological, medical, veterinary or physical science, or in pharmacy, that included at least 30 semester hours in chemistry and physiology and 12 semester hours in pharmacology.

**TOXICOLOGIST, GS-415**

Applicants must have successful completion of a full four-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's (or higher) degree in toxicology; or an appropriate discipline of the biological, medical, or veterinary sciences that included at least 30 semester hours in chemistry, biochemistry or physiology, and 12 semester hours in toxicology.

**CHEMIST, GS-1320**

Applicants must have either (A) Successful completion of a full four-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's (or higher) degree in physical sciences, life sciences or engineering that included 30 semester hours in chemistry, supplemented by course work in mathematics through differential and integral calculus, and at least 6 semester hours of physics; OR (B) A combination of education and experience with course work equivalent to a major as shown in A above, including at least 30 hours in chemistry, supplemented by mathematics through differential and integral calculus, and at least 6 semester hours of physics, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

**SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE** is experience, which is typically in or directly related to the work of the position such as experience in planning and coordinating the work of a group of scientist involved in reviewing biological data.

**METHOD OF EVALUATION AND BASIS OF RATING** Candidates found basically qualified will be evaluated on the extent and quality of experience, education, training, awards, etc. as shown on the application. Plus data obtained from the attached knowledge skills and abilities (KSA's). No written test is required. It is strongly recommended that applicants address the knowledge, skills and abilities statements in detail.

1. **Ability to plan and direct work of a team within a scientific environment.**
2. **Knowledge of animal agriculture, with emphasis on the animal feed industry.**
3. **Ability to meet and negotiate.**

**HOW TO APPLY:**

Candidates may submit one of the following: an Application for Federal Employment (SF-171), an Optional Application for Federal Employment (OF 612), resume, curriculum vitae, or any other written format. Your application must include the following information:

1. Title, series, grade, and vacancy announcement number of the vacancy for which you want to be considered.
2. Full legal name and mailing address.
3. Daytime and evening telephone numbers.

4. For experiences most relevant to this position, include name of employer, dates of employment, job title, start and end dates, and a description of your duties and responsibilities for each job listed.
5. Average hours worked for each position if other than 40 hours per week.
6. Name, location, and date of educational institutions attended.
7. Type of degree, if any, and date received.
8. Major field of study.
9. List of relevant training including, course titles, dates, and number of hours and name of institution.
10. Description of honors, awards, and special qualifications, such as language skills or computer skills, along with dates acquired.
11. Clearly identify U.S. Citizenship (Proof required prior to employment).

**PROOF OF EDUCATION:** Candidates may submit a College transcript (official or unofficial) or, if not available, a list of college courses and Certificate of scholastic achievement. List should include a course description of any course(s) not readily identifiable by title, number of semester hours and grade.

Qualifying education gained at colleges and universities in foreign countries must be evaluated in terms of its equivalency to that acquired in American colleges and universities. Applicants educated in whole or in part in foreign countries must submit sufficient evidence, including transcripts, to an accredited private organization for an equivalency evaluation. A letter containing the results **MUST** accompany the application package.

**CREDIT FOR EDUCATION:** When academic credit is expressed in contract months, units, or other terms that differ from conventional semester or quarter hours, it is the responsibility of the applicant to provide an interpretation of such credits from the appropriate institution in order to equate them to the semester or quarter hours specified in this announcement.

**SUPPLEMENTAL QUALIFICATIONS STATEMENT (enclosed with this announcement). It is strongly recommended that each applicant address the knowledge, skill, and ability statements in detail.**

- ☒ Written response to the knowledge, skills and abilities
- ☒ If claiming veteran's preference, attach a copy of your DD214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, or other proof of eligibility.
- ☐ College transcripts or list of courses, including title, credit hours and grade for each course if qualifying on education and/or changing occupational series;
- ☒ Current federal employees must submit most recent performance appraisal/evaluation
- ☒ Current and former federal employees must submit a copy of their most recent SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action
- ☒ Application Background Survey: Please return the Background Survey with your application. The information you provide is used for statistical purposes. The return of this form will have no impact on your consideration for this position.

Displaced Employees Requesting Special Selection Priority Consideration Under The Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program (ICTAP) If you are a displaced Federal employee, you may be entitled to receive priority selection under the ICTAP.

**To be eligible for the special selection priority, you must meet all of the following:**

- (1) Be a displaced Federal employee;
  - (2) Submit a copy of your current (or your last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent;
  - (3) Apply for a vacancy at or below the grade level from which you were or are being separated, that does not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you have been or are being separated from;
  - (4) Occupy, or was displaced from a position in the same local commuting area of the vacancy;
  - (5) Submit an application (including all required documentation) for a specific vacancy within the periods established on the announcement and meet all the application and eligibility criteria;
  - (6) Submit proof of eligibility; and
  - (7) Be rated well qualified for the position.
- "Well Qualified" means: a displaced employee must meet the minimum qualification and eligibility requirements for the position (including any selective factors), and be rated and ranked to determine the extent to which he/she possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA's) to succeed in the position being filled. **Under delegated examining procedures**, the displaced employee must receive a score of 90 or better to receive selection priority.

Displaced employees may submit any (one) of the following as proof of eligibility for the special selection priority:

- (1) RIF separation notice, or notice of proposed removal for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function to another commuting area;
- (2) Documentation, e.g., SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action, showing that you were separated as a result of RIF, or for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function to another commuting area;

- (3) Official certification from an agency stating that it cannot place an individual whose injury compensation has been or is being terminated;
- (4) Official notification from OPM that your disability annuity has been or is being terminated; or
- (5) Official notification from the Military Department or National Guard Bureau that the employee has retired under 5 U.S.C. 8337(h) or 8456.

**Veteran's Preference for Federal Jobs: CE -101**

If you served on active duty in the United States Military and received an honorable or general discharge, you may be eligible for veteran's preference. Service starting after October 15, 1976 requires a Campaign Badge, or Expeditionary Medal or Service connected disability requirements. For information about eligibility requirements, call 912-757-3000.

To claim veteran's preference, attach a copy of your DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, or other proof of eligibility.

- If claiming 5 point veteran's preference, list the dates (month, day, year) and branch of any active duty served.
- If you claim 10 point veteran's preference attached an SF-15, Application for 10 Point Veteran's Preference, plus the proof required by that form.

The Defense Authorization Act of November 18, 1997, extended veterans' preference to persons who served on active duty during the Gulf War from August 2, 1990, through January 2, 1992. The law grants preference to persons otherwise eligible and who served on active duty during this period, regardless of where the person served or for how long. The law also authorizes the Secretary of each military department to award the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for service in Bosnia during the period November 10, 1995, to a date to be determined. The award of the Medal is qualifying for veterans' preference. More information on veterans' preference is available in the VetGuide that may be found on the U.S. Office of Personnel Management web site at [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov).

***All applicants will receive equal consideration without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, age or any other nonmerit factor.***

***Vietnam era veterans, disabled veterans, individuals with disabilities, and other individuals eligible for special appointing authorities are encouraged to apply.***

**WHERE TO OBTAIN FORMS**

Office of Personnel Management web site at <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>.

**WHERE TO SEND FORMS:**

ADDRESS: Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Veterinary Medicine  
Attn: Ms. Vernelle M. Dewberry  
Metro Park North II, Room N431  
7500 Standish Place  
Rockville, MD 20855  
(301) 827-1592

Additional forms and information may be obtained from the address above or by calling Vernelle M. Dewberry (301) 827-1592, (Voice/TTY) or the FDA Job line (301) 443-1969.

FDA vacancy announcements are available by fax by calling our FaxBack number at (301) 827-4287.

Applications received become the property of the Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) and will not be returned.

In accordance with 18 U.S.C. 1719 and 39 U.S.C. 3201 SEQ., applications will not be accepted from applicants using franked government envelopes, or postage paid agency envelopes or metered mail.

**All applications material must be postmarked or received by the closing date of this announcement.**